

## Information Note<sup>1</sup>

- Event:** Training Course for the 1540 Points of Contact (PoC) for the Latin American and Caribbean region
- Organisers:** Chile in cooperation with the 1540 Committee and its Group of Experts and supported by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) through the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC)
- Date and venue:** 24 to 28 October 2016, Santiago, Chile
- Participants:** *National Participants:* Argentina, Bahamas, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and Venezuela
- Instructors from International and regional organisations:* Caribbean Community (CARICOM), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) (by video conference), Organisation for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Organization of American States (OAS), United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC), United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC), World Customs Organization (WCO) and United Nations Security Council 1540 Committee and its Group of Experts
- Instructors from States:* Chilean Commission of Nuclear Energy, Customs Panama and U.S. Department of State

### 1. Background

- The Security Council has urged States to provide the Committee with their PoC on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).
- Two training courses for the 1540 PoC were held in September 2015 for the Asia-Pacific Region and in June 2016 for the OSCE members, in cooperation with the Governments of China and the Russian Federation, respectively.
- The training courses for the 1540 PoC aim at providing the participants with an in-depth knowledge about the resolution's obligations and its implementation. The courses also provide an opportunity to strengthen the cooperation and interaction among the PoC.
- In August 2016, Ambassador Cristián Barros Melet, Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations and Ambassador Román Oyarzun Marchesi, Chair of the 1540 Committee co-signed an invitation letter inviting the Latin American and Caribbean States and international and regional organisations to attend this training course.

---

<sup>1</sup> For information – not an official report. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the 1540 Committee or of the organisers or participants in the event.

## **2. Highlights**

### **Opening Session**

The course was opened on 24 October with remarks by Mr. Julio Bravo, Director of International and Human Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile and Mr. Carlos López (Spain) on behalf of the Chair of the 1540 Committee.

In the margins of the training course, the 1540 experts held a meeting with several Chilean authorities to discuss future steps aimed at developing a voluntary NAP.

### **Session discussions**

The course consisted of four different sections.

- a) The first section included lectures on the current risks related to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), an overview of the non-proliferation regimes and the UN global counter-terrorism instruments and their links with resolution 1540 (2004), as well as a general presentation on the mandate of the Security Council and other Chapter VII resolutions related to WMD proliferation. The speakers highlighted the common elements of these instruments and resolution 1540 (2004). This section was aimed at providing a comprehensive background of the context in which resolution 1540 was adopted and its synergies with other international instruments, as well as current proliferation challenges.
- b) The second section focused on resolution 1540 (2004) itself. The 1540 experts made presentations on the full spectrum of the obligations of resolution 1540 (2004), including nuclear, chemical, biological security, border and export controls, proliferation financing. The discussion was focused on the key operative paragraphs 1, 2 and 3.

Experts from the IAEA (by video), the OPCW and the Coordinator of the 1540 Group of Experts (by video) made presentations on accounting and physical protection measures in the nuclear, chemical and biological fields respectively. A member of the Chilean Nuclear Energy Commission made a presentation on nuclear security in Chile, including on the security principles, the regulatory process, security assessment, and physical protection. A representative from the UNODC made a presentation on the international counter-terrorism legal framework. Regarding border controls, the WCO expert made a presentation on the organisation's programmes as well as on the WCO Strategic Trade Control Enforcement Implementation Guide. The 1540 Experts also made presentations on reporting, 1540 matrices, voluntary NAPs and visits to States, at their invitation, and the 1540 assistance mechanism.

- c) A third section was devoted to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in Latin America and the Caribbean. POCs were presented with an overview of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in the region and the developments registered

in the matrices since their last review. Mr. Alfredo Toro (Venezuela), member of the 1540 Committee, made a presentation on the structure and methods of work of the 1540 Committee as well as on the 2016 Comprehensive Review process. The representatives of CARICOM and the OAS briefed PoC about their 1540 related work in the region. The latter also made a presentation on counter-proliferation financing. A member of the Panamanian Customs made a presentation regarding the Chong Chon Kang DPRK-flag vessel which was detained in Panama. A representative of the United States Department of State briefed participants about the work of the EXBS programme, in particular in the region. The participating government representatives presented their national experiences in the implementation of the resolution in their respective countries.

d) The 1540 Experts held bilateral consultations with all participating States.

### **Additional Comments**

For further information, please contact the 1540 Committee experts by e-mail at [1540experts@un.org](mailto:1540experts@un.org).